

The Iron Age

A Review of the Hardware and Metal Trades.

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The New Iron Dome on the Williamsburgh Savings Bank.

This structure, which is now building under the supervision of Messrs. J. B. & J. M. Cornell, of this city, promises to be a very beautiful example of ornamental iron construction. The plan of the building proper is a parallelogram, but the dome, which is circular, is placed over the center of the building. The facade of the bank is of stone, handsomely ornamented, and the iron construction is within the exterior walls of the structure.

As the interior construction is viewed from the bank floor it presents the following appearance: Starting from the level of this floor, and extending upward for 26 feet, the architecture is of the Corinthian order. This is surmounted by an arch, the springing line of which is on each side of the building. The extrados of the arch reaches the level from which the dome begins. At a height of 56 feet above the bank floor there is a very elaborate cast iron cornice, the largest and most ornamental in the country. The height of this entablature is 12 feet, and it is provided at the top with brackets and lamps for illuminating the interior of the building. At the base of the entablature is the line from which begin the columns which sustain the colonnade. They rest on cast iron plates bolted together so as to constitute one continuous annular plate around the dome. This section of columns is covered within and without with ornamented cast iron plates. By such a means an air of finish is imparted to this portion of the construction. These columns reach to the line of the roof, and are surmounted by another section of columns which extend to the colonnade proper. Between the columns of this second section are Louvre windows of elliptical form, 7 feet 6 inches high by 5 feet in width. The colonnade is 22 feet in height, and the diameter of the circle which circumscribes its base is 60 feet. The top of the colonnade, which is finished with a perfect entablature, is the base, or springing line, of the dome. At this point there is a connecting plate continuing around the entire top of the colonnade, forming a base for the construction of the dome. This plate is 1½ inches thick and 3 feet 6 inches wide.

The ribs of the external surface of the dome are rolled wrought iron deck beams of 10 inches web and 6 inch flange. This is the first instance in which deck beams have been used for dome construction, as it has generally been thought that they could not be easily bent. In this case, however, no difficulty was experienced. The smaller beams were curved while hot, at Cornell's shop, and the larger ones at the rolling mill. Horizontal angle iron purlins are attached to the ribs, and on these is placed a covering of slate. The highest portion of this surface is 40 feet above the plane of the springing line. The internal surface or ceiling of the dome is much below the outer surface, and is also built of curved deck beams, the radius of the curve being 33 feet. The beams in this case are smaller, and the surface is connected with the upper one by means of tie rods, struts, etc. The space between the ribs of the ceiling is to be filled in with hollow brick and plaster. The crown of the dome is to be very elaborately decorated on the exterior with festoons of drapery, and above the dome is a gallery provided with a railing. The dome is finally surmounted by a lantern, whose height, from its base to top of spire, is 36 feet, and width 11 feet 8 inches.

From the pavement to the top of the lantern the height is 163 feet 4½ inches. From the top of the attic finish of the main building to the top of the lantern the distance is 94 feet. The architect is Mr. George B. Post, and the plans and work have been directed by Mr. G. T. Powell, superintendent of the construction department of Cornell's iron works.

We add a few statistics concerning domes which will be found interesting. The height of St. Paul's dome, London, from the pavement to the top of the cross, is 360 feet. The dome of the Hotel des Invalides, in Paris, is 292 feet high. It is gilded, and is one of the most magnificent specimens of architecture in the world. It is ornamented on its exterior with zinc and copper decorations. The dome of St. Peter's is 200 feet in diameter, and is 400 feet in height from the pavement to the base of the lantern. The dome of the capitol at Washington is 136 feet in external diameter—that is, measuring from the circle which circumscribes the colonnade. Its interior diameter is 94 feet 8 inches, and there is a passage-way between the external and internal periphery of the gallery on which the columns rest. From the pavement to the base of the old dome the distance is 75 feet, and from this point the height of the iron portion to the top of the lantern of the present dome it is 216 feet.

One of the finest examples of light iron construction in this country was the dome of the New York Crystal Palace. From the floor to the springing line of the dome the height was 71 feet. The dome rested on twenty-four columns, and the circumscribing circle of the octagon, which was the shape of the dome, was 100 feet

in diameter. This dome was raised in four and one-half working days from the time the materials were on the ground, by a gang of one hundred and fifty men. The height of the dome was 64 feet, and the total height of the structure 135 feet.

The iron dome which has been designed for the new city hall of New York, has an inside diameter of 72 feet, and an outside diameter of

Nickel and Cobalt and their Uses.

Nickel and cobalt ores are usually associated with each other, and both nickel and cobalt are now very valuable in the arts, and used in considerable quantities; yet comparatively but little is known of the precise details of the processes carried on in the refineries, owing to each refiner preferring to confine his atten-

This latter, when carefully roasted in an oxidizing furnace, in contact with sand or ground flint, affords at once an impure silicate of cobalt, and arsenide of nickel, both of which are marketable products.

The beautiful pigments into the composition of which cobalt enters are familiar to most persons—cobalt-ultramarine, ceruleum, and cobalt green being especially brilliant. Cobalt

and water painting, and for staining glass and porcelain. Ceruleum, which exhibits a bright blue color, not changing in artificial light, consists of stannate of protoxide of cobalt, mixed in certain proportions with stannic acid and gypsum, and is not affected by heat, or the action of dilute acids or alkalis. In his translation of Wagner's "Chemical Technology," whence these details are taken, Mr. Crookes, F. R. S., gives the exact proportions, but in an article intended for general readers it is unnecessary to repeat them. Cobalt green, which is also known as zinc green and Saxony green, is a compound similar to the cobalt ultramarine, but oxide of zinc is substituted for the alumina. This green is prepared by mixing a solution of white vitriol with a solution of a salt of protoxide of cobalt, precipitating by carbonate of soda, and washing, drying, and heating the precipitate. This pigment, when pure, contains 88 per cent. of oxide of zinc and 12 per cent. of protoxide of cobalt; it is not affected by strong heat. The cobalt yellow is obtained by mixing a solution of protoxide of cobalt with nitrate of potassa; it is a yellow crystalline precipitate, perfectly insoluble in water. According to Hays, this pigment is readily obtained by causing the vapors of hypophosphoric acid to pass into a solution of protoxide of cobalt, to which some potassa has been added. The whole of the cobalt is then converted into cobalt yellow. As the nitrate of protoxide of cobalt and potassa can be obtained even from impure solutions of protoxide of cobalt, so as to be quite free from any nickel, iron, etc., the use of this preparation of cobalt is preferable for glass and porcelain staining when a pure blue is required. Cobalt bronze, a double salt of phosphate of protoxide of cobalt and ammonia, has likewise lately been brought into commerce; it is a violet colored powder, exhibiting a strong metallic lustre.

In the extraction of cobalt, then, we see that it is a chemical process that is usually involved, but the extraction of nickel is more directly metallurgical. Occasionally true nickel ores are found, as in the case of Redwanskite, found in the Ural Mountains, in Russia, but it is chiefly extracted from ores which contain it accidentally, such as certain species of iron and copper pyrites, the Mansfeldt ores, and others. An iron ore, found at Pragaten, in the Austrian Tyrol, has been profitably worked, although containing but 1.75 per cent. of nickel; yet, it is seen that in this country even 3.50 per cent. has been neglected. It very rarely happens that even the natural ores of nickel are sufficiently pure to admit of the direct extraction of the metal, and therefore, as is the case with copper, a preliminary operation is required, which aims at the concentration of the metal, either with sulphur when the combined substance is termed regulus, or with arsenic when it is called speiss, and it is one or other of these forms that the miners would in all probability find to be of the greatest possible advantage to bring the nickel into the market. One of the best authorities upon matters of this nature suggests that oxide of iron would probably be found the most suitable flux for using with the Cornish ores containing nickel and cobalt, and he considers that by this means a manufacturer accustomed to furnace operations would probably be enabled to send into the market an arsenical compound containing more than 50 per cent. of the nickel. In the subsequent process, the powdered speiss is roasted to expel the arsenic, first by itself and next with the addition of charcoal powder, till the garbe smell be no longer perceived. The residue is mixed with three parts of sulphur and one of potash, melted in a crucible at a gentle heat, and the product being educed with water leaves a powder of metallic lustre, which is a sulphide of nickel free from arsenic, while the arsenic associated with the sulphur and combined with the resulting sulphide of potassium remains dissolved. Should arsenic still be found in the sulphide, as may happen if the first roasting heat were too great, the process is repeated.

Pure nickel has a nearly silver white color, with a slightly yellowish line, is very difficult to melt, rather hard, very ductile, and easily polished. When quite pure it may be drawn into wire, rolled into sheets, hammered, and forged; and in combination with copper and zinc in varying proportions gives the beautiful silver-like alloys so familiar to many as German silver, although called by various names, according to the caprice of the manufacturer. The great necessity for the removal of the arsenic arises from the fact that if any be allowed to remain the nickeliferous alloys speedily turn brown upon exposure to the air, yet want of whiteness must not always be attributed to the presence of arsenic, for but very little variation in the proportions of the metals forming the alloy will change it from one scarcely distinguishable by the eye from silver to a comparatively worthless one; and, indeed, the difference seems to depend sometimes upon mere difference in the method of mixing. Thus the fine Argentine plate and the oriental packfong, which is little better in appearance than pewter, are each described as consisting of—copper, 8 parts; nickel, 3 parts; and zinc, 3 parts. When the proportion of nickel is increased, the alloy is much harder and more difficult to work, whilst the color is not materially improved; and when the proportion is much diminished, the color is usually deteriorated; yet one manufacturer employing copper, 60.0; zinc, 17.0; and nickel, 23.5, succeeds in producing a very fine alloy.



WILLIAMSBURGH SAVINGS BANK.

88 feet. Its height from pavement to the top of the lantern is 208 feet. This dome is to consist of a colonnade surmounted with an attic ornamented with buttress and finial decorations and circular windows. The top of the dome is finished with a gallery and lanterns, to which access is gained by means of a stairway within the dome.

The changes which are being made in the Marquette and Pacific Furnace, at Marquette, Mich., are equivalent to the construction of a new furnace. The stack is an iron shell 60 feet high with 15 foot boshes. All the appliances and auxiliaries are of first-class order, and the furnace when completed will rank number one in every particular.

tion to a particular class of ore (frequently an ore which, from its peculiarity, is not easily treated by the ordinary smelter, and can, therefore, be purchased cheaply), and keep his process secret. With regard to the ores of Cornwall and Devon, they are seldom found to contain more than from 2 to 7 per cent. of available metallic matter, whilst, from some of the Continental ores as much as 12 or 14 per cent. can be relied upon. In the German ore, moreover, the metallic ingredients are often of a more fusible character, so that when heated in the reverberatory furnace the earthy and metallic elements readily separate, the siliceous gangue with but little metal in it, except oxide of iron, rising to the top, and leaving a metallic compound of arsenic, cobalt, nickel, &c., beneath.

ultramarine, or Thenard's blue, consists of alumina and protoxide of cobalt. The pigment is prepared either by mixing solutions of alum and a salt of protoxide of cobalt, precipitating the mixture by a solution of carbonate of soda, or by the decomposition of aluminate of soda by the means of chloride of cobalt. The resulting precipitate, consisting of an intimate mixture of hydrate of alumina and hydrate of protoxide of cobalt, is well washed, then dried, and heated for some time. This pigment when pulverized is very similar to ultramarine by day light, but is a dirty violet by artificial light. It is, however, not acted upon by acids, as distinguished from artificial ultramarine; neither is it affected by alkalis, as is copper or mineral blue; the Thenard's blue is chiefly used in oil

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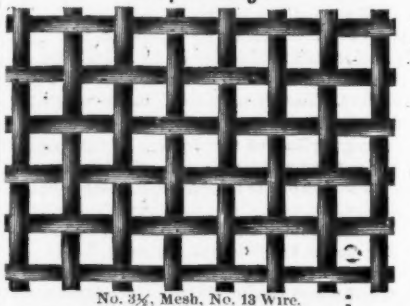
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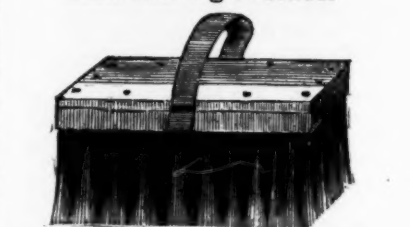
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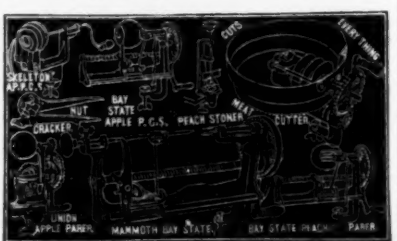
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Bayliss' Vertical Hot Blast and Water Tuyere.

Probably no portion of the machinery of the smith's shop has been experimented upon so much as the tuyere. Thirty-five or forty years ago anything with a hole in it sufficiently large to admit a current of air was considered good enough; but experience has taught that in this item, at least, the cheapest is not always the best. The changing of the horizontal blast to a vertical one was one of the most radical alterations made in the art of smithing. The change was made by a German named Auerbach, for which he received "letters patent" about 30 or more years ago. The affair consisted of an oval pot attached to a square bed or top plate, the bed plate being so fitted as to take, with an oval opening, a triangular elongated ball, which was secured by a shaft passing through its cen-

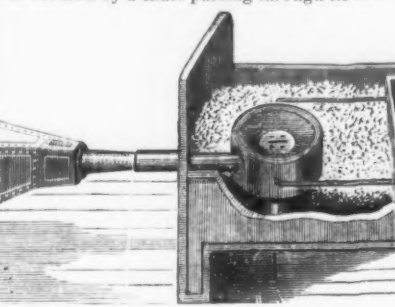


Fig. 1

ter, the shaft being secured in position by means of a securing plate and its two journals, the shaft extending to the outer side of the forge, the end of the shaft being squared and fitted with a crank. By means of the crank the ball was caused to revolve, and in such revolution crushed all the slag or cinder that happened to be in or near the oval opening, allowing the same to drop into the pot or receptacle below. The blast, as with all tuyeres of a former or present date, entered the tuyere horizontally, broke against the walls of the pot, and ascended vertically through the oval opening, the inventor claiming that, by reason of the space or the greatness of the area of the pot, which soon became warm, the increase of the bulk or volume of the air by means of expansion more than compensated for what was lost by means of the air colliding with the walls of the pot. To remove the slag the pot was fitted with a sliding valve at the bottom, which could be removed at pleasure, allowing the crushed slag and other impurities to fall out. This bottom valve has been a stumbling block to many inventors of tuyeres, and many are the methods which have been resorted to to get around the same without infringement upon Auerbach's patents.

Since the invention of Mr. Auerbach, many others have been introduced, all claiming a superiority, and each one having a peculiar feature upon which its inventor claims that it should precede all others in existence. Among the most generally satisfactory of the improved tuyeres is that invented by Mr. John Bayliss, shown in the accompanying illustrations.

Fig. 1 represents a small forge with horizontal tuyere, and Fig. 2 the vertical or bottom blast tuyere.

Instead of the blast passing into the fire cold, as in the ordinary tuyere, it passes through pipe A (Fig. 2), and takes a circle of the air chamber B, and enters the fire at a temperature of 300°, through nozzle C—a hollow casting which is filled with water from an iron tank F

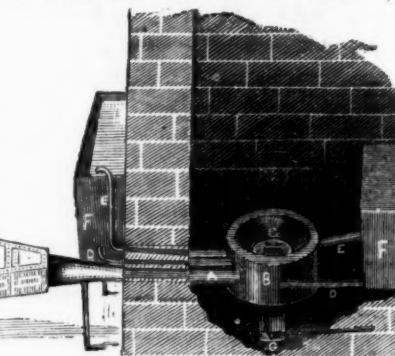


Fig. 2

by pipe D. The steam generated in the nozzle, is conveyed back to the tank by pipe E. It will be seen that the water protects the nozzle from burning, also from choking up while a hot blast is passing through it. The saving of time and fuel is considerable, while its durability—which has been thoroughly proved—equals its economy. For welding purposes it is especially commended, from the uniformity, clearness and softness of the heats, the rapidity and ease with which they are obtained, and the perfection of the work produced.

After a large heat, lift the lever attached to valve G, to allow the dust and slag to fall out. There are two ways to set these tuyeres: First, to the right of the cut is tank F, firmly attached to the pipes D and E; this tank is built in the hearth with the tuyere; set this tank level with the top of the forge; this tank being built in the forge, the most severe weather cannot freeze the water in it. Secondly, the cut explains how to set this tuyere: the pipes are screwed into their places after the tuyere is set level and about four inches from the nozzle to the level of the forge, if for heavy work five inches, then build up with mortar or clay. These tuyeres can be placed in any forge of iron or brick in from one to two hours.

The inventor claims for this tuyere a considerable increase in the volume of air by expansion, also the ability to increase or diminish the blast at pleasure. The object of the employment of water is that the circulation of water in close proximity with the upper surface of the

tuyere keeps the same cool, and prevents the adhesion of slag while in a liquid state to the surface of the tuyere, and allowing of the easy removal of the same upon its becoming solid when coming in contact with the cool outer surface of the tuyere. He also claims that the slight exhaustion of steam generated by means of the water passing through the tuyere has the effect of neutralizing the sulphuric acid gas or sulphuretted hydrogen, causing the same to pass off harmless.

This tuyere is adopted in a large number of our principal establishments using forges, and gives satisfactory results.

New Patents.

We take from the records of the patent office at Washington the following specifications of certain patents lately issued, which will be found interesting:

IMPROVEMENT IN CUPOLA FURNACES.

Specification forming part of Letters Patent No. 138,510, dated May 6, 1873, issued to Philip W. Mackenzie, of Blauveltville, New York.

Figure 1 represents a sectional elevation of a cupola furnace with invention applied to it; Fig. 2 a vertical section, upon a larger scale, of two adjacent sections, in part, of a steam generator used in and forming part of the invention;

Fig. 3, a horizontal or transverse section of the same; Fig. 4, a section at the line, x x.

Similar letters of reference indicate corresponding parts throughout the several figures of the drawing.

This invention is mainly designed for the smelting of the precious metals, such as gold and silver; but it is also applicable to inferior metals, and may be used in cupolas for smelting iron ore. It consists in a combination, with the smelting furnace, of a steam generator, heated by said furnace and by gases passing therefrom, and a steam injector deriving its supply of steam from said generator and jetting it into a draft flue or flues connected with the chimney or main outlet for the escaping products of combustion, whereby the products of combustion are made to maintain the blast of the furnace. It also consists in certain peculiarities of construction and combinations or arrangements of parts, whereby the above result is obtained in a most perfect and advantageous manner, and

great convenience is afforded for fitting the whole together, as also for repairs, when necessary, and for starting or operating the furnace under different conditions of its draft.

merely by its contact with or proximity to the lower portion of the body of furnace, but also by the escaping products of combustion passing through it. Thus the products of combustion may either pass—that is, when a natural draft is required—direct from the top of the cupola, which is covered, by or through a main upper outlet, I, to the chimney J on opening a damper, r; or said products may be forced to pass through the injector H down into a box, K, with which the flues e connect at their top, and from thence down through said flues to a lower box, from which is an outlet, L, that connects with the chimney J below. This draft is quickened by the steam-injector H to produce the necessary blast to the furnace; and, as said injector is supplied with steam from the generator G, the furnace is accordingly made to maintain its own blast. Said injector, of which s is the nozzle, may be constructed with an outer drying case or shell for the steam, and inner reversely tapering body.

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A represents the bosh of the furnace, which may either be of brick, as shown at the right-hand side of Fig. 1; or may be of a hollow metal construction to contain water, as shown at the left hand of said figure. When a water-bosh is used, then the feed-water to the steam generator G, designed to be heated by the furnace, may be introduced through said bosh by a pipe, b, and the bosh connect at its top with the lower portion of the water-space of the generator. B is the bowl of the furnace, having a tap-spout, c; C, the bed brick; D, the sand hearth; and d, the air-openings, by which the furnace is supplied with air. E is the lower, and F the upper, portion of the body of the furnace, both

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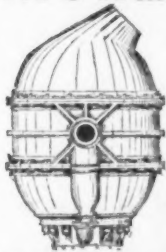
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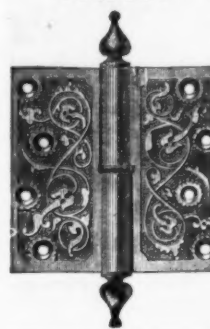
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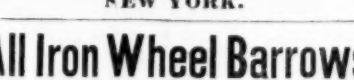
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**On the Molecular Changes Produced in
Iron by Variations of Temperature.**

BY PROFESSOR R. H. THURSTON.

(Concluded.)

60. Reviewing the whole ground, it becomes evident that there still remains much interesting work to be done in determining the precise effects of variation of temperature upon the strength and ductility of the various metals, and, particularly, in ascertaining the modifications of the general law, which may be due to differences in physical and chemical structure, where they are combined with the metalloids, or united as alloys.

Some of those effects which have been attributed to changes of tenacity in the material may have been due, in some degree, to unequal expansion or contraction. It can hardly be doubted that such action often modifies, or even disguises, the change in character produced by real changes of intermolecular forces. It is certainly the fact that changes of molecular arrangement sometimes occur very slowly.

Ordinance of cast iron has been found to gain strength slowly, but probably steadily, for years after its removal from the foundry; the familiar belief that razors, out of use, recover the cutting quality lost by constant employment, may probably be founded on fact, and the writer has often noticed that cold chisels and similar tools, when found after long disuse and exposure to the weather, seem to have regained the strength and endurance of edge, the loss of which had probably caused the workman to throw them aside.

If this be the case, a sudden alteration of structure, such as may be produced by considerable changes of temperature, may cause a change of quality, which only a long period of time may counteract. Such action would evidently be most marked with brittle, and least noticeable with ductile, metals, and the fact is further illustrated by the circumstance that iron castings, not infrequently, are broken while cooling after removal from the mold, while bronze castings are very rarely thus injured.

61. It seems, finally, very probable that additional investigation will be found to confirm our deductions from experiments already made, and will justify the following

CONCLUSIONS:

1. That the number and the nature of those molecular forces which determine the physical condition of matter are not yet fully ascertained, but that these forces manifest themselves in, at least, three distinct modes of action, and, as thus exhibited, they are known as repulsion, cohesion, and polarity.

2. That the force of repulsion is, apparently, heat-motion, or some closely related phase of energy; that the force of cohesion bears some resemblance to that of gravitation, but seems not to be identical with the latter, and that the force of molecular polarity, which determines the molecular relations of position, seems to bear some distant resemblance to that of magnetic polarity.

3. That the law which governs the variation in intensity of these forces with changes of intermolecular distances, is undetermined, and that it has not been expressed by any mathematical formula, except approximately and for a limited range.

4. That the magnitudes of the intermolecular spaces, and, consequently, the volume of any mass, are variable with changes in the relative magnitudes of the forces of cohesion and repulsion.

5. That the resistance offered to change of form is determined by the relations, in intensity, of the forces of polarity, and of those forces which determine intermolecular distances.

6. That, at the "absolute zero" (-461.2° Fahr.), cohesion and polarity, and, consequently, the strength of the material, have their maximum value, heat energy having disappeared.

7. That, at very high temperatures, heat energy exerts a separating force between particles, which entirely overcomes the other forces, and matter assuming the gaseous state requires the action of extraneous force to preserve its volume unchanged.

8. That, at intermediate points, matter in either the solid or the liquid state exhibits a definite degree of separation of molecules, which is determined by the intensity of the repulsion due to heat motion, a position of equilibrium being assumed which, with the same substance, is invariable for the same temperature. The application of some kind of force is required to disturb this equilibrium and to produce change of volume. The amount of this force is determined, for any given extent of disturbance, by the maximum value of cohesion for the substance and the quantity of heat which has been required to raise it from the absolute zero of temperature. The sum of the applied force, and of the force consequent upon the presence of heat motion, must exceed cohesive force to produce dilatation, while this cohesive force, added to the externally applied force, must exceed the force of repulsion to produce diminution of volume.

9. That the distinction between the solid and liquid states of matter is due to the action, in the former, of the force of polarity, which gives stability of form, while in the latter this force is extremely feeble, and disappears altogether before the boundary line between the liquid and gaseous states is reached.

That combined stability and elasticity of volume may be produced by the equilibrium of attractive and repulsive forces, but that stability and elasticity of form demand the co-existence of cohesion and polarity.

10. That the general effect of increase or decrease of temperature is, in solid bodies, to decrease or increase their power of resistance to rupture, or to change of form, and their capability of sustaining "dead" loads.

11. That the general effect of change of tem-

perature is to produce change of ductility, and, consequently, change of resilience and power of resisting shocks and of carrying "live" loads. This change is opposite in direction and, usually, greater in degree, than the variation simultaneously occurring in tenacity.

12. That marked exceptions to this general law have been noted, but that it seems invariably the fact that wherever an exception is observed in the effect upon tenacity, an exception also may be detected in the effect upon resilience. Those causes which produce increase of strength appear always to cause a simultaneous decrease of ductility, and vice versa.

13. That experiments upon copper, so far as they have been carried, indicate that, with that metal, the general law holds good.

14. That iron exhibits marked deviations from the law, between ordinary temperatures and a point somewhere between 500° and 600° Fahr., the strength increasing between these limits to the extent of about 15 per cent., with good iron. That this variation becomes more marked and the observed effects are more irregular as the metal is more impure.

15. That, above 600°, and, at temperatures below 70° Fahr., the general law holds good with iron, its tenacity increasing with diminishing temperature below the latter point, at the rate of from about 0.02 per cent. to 0.03 per cent., for each degree Fahrenheit, while its resilience decreases in a much higher but not well determined ratio for good iron, and to the extent of reduction to one-third its ordinary value or less, at 10° Fahr., when "cold short," and, in the latter case, the set before fracture may be less than one-fourth that noted at a temperature of 84° Fahr.

16. That the viscosity, ductility and resilience of metals are determined by identical conditions, and that the fracture of iron at low temperatures has, accordingly, been found to be characteristic of a brittle material, while, at higher temperatures, it exhibits the appearance peculiar to ductile and somewhat viscous substances. The metal breaks, in the first case, with slight permanent set and a short, granular, fracture, and in the latter with, frequently, a considerable set and the form of fracture indicating great ductility. The variation in the behavior of iron, as it approaches the welding heat, illustrates the latter condition in the most complete manner.

17. That the precise action of the elements with which iron is liable to be contaminated, and the extent to which they modify its behavior under varying temperatures, remain to be fully investigated, but that the presence of phosphorus, and of other substances producing "cold shortness," exaggerates to a great degree the effects of low temperature in causing loss of toughness and resilience.

18. That the modifications of the general law with other metals than iron and copper, and in the case of alloys, have not been studied, and are entirely unknown.

19. That these conclusions are sustained by experiments of both physicists and engineers.

The practical result of the whole investigation is that iron and copper, and probably other metals, do not lose their power of sustaining "dead" loads at low temperatures, but that they do lose, to a very serious extent, their power of sustaining shocks or resisting sharp blows, and that the factor of safety in structures need not be increased in the former case, where exposure to severe cold is apprehended, but that machinery, rails, and other constructions which are to resist shocks, should have large factors of safety, and should be most carefully protected, if possible, from extremes of temperature.

It will be noticed that nothing in the evidence here quoted indicates crystallization or any change of molecular grouping to be consequent upon simple change of temperature.*

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* It is intended to consider this subject in a succeeding paper.

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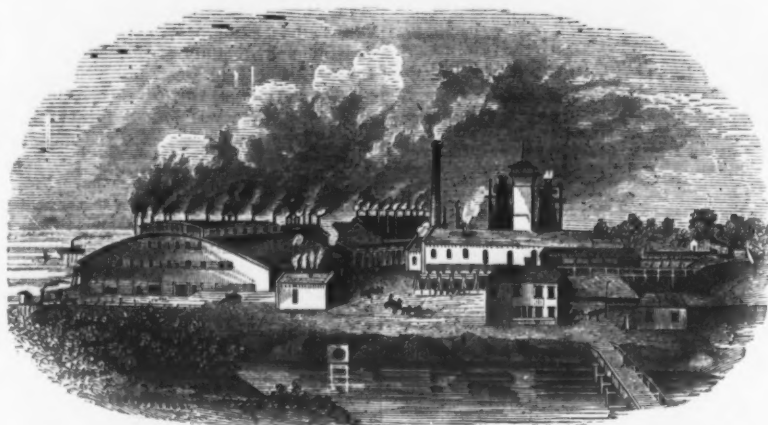
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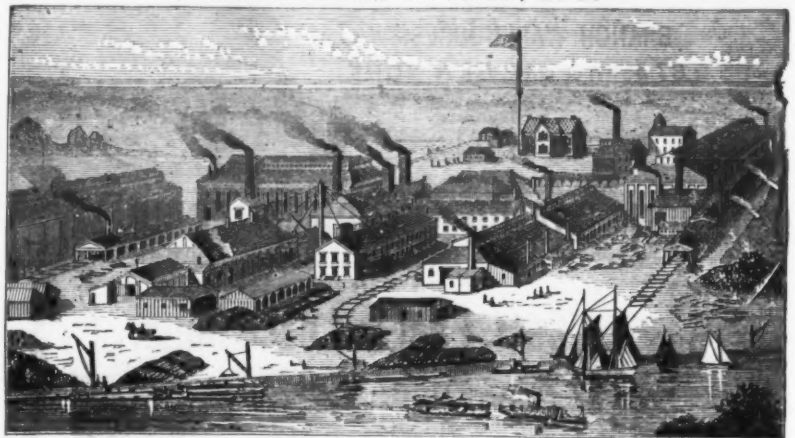
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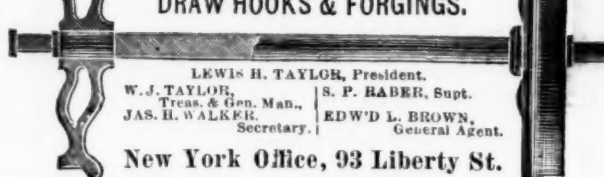
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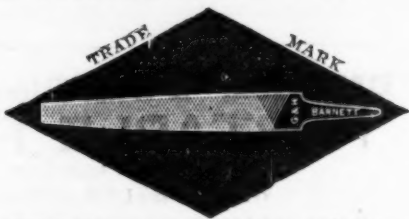
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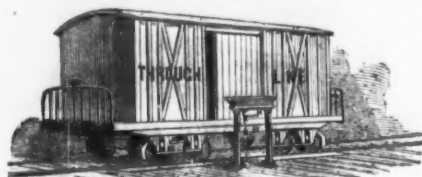
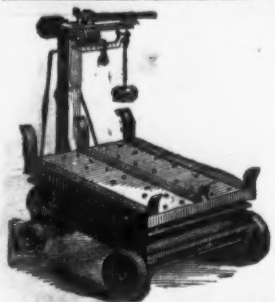
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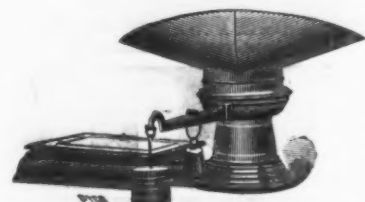
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"We take pleasure in commending the new agency to the favor of inventors." The Iron Age, June 6.

"Of Prof. James A. Whitney we can speak from a personal acquaintance. Any person seeking professional advice from him will be certain of just and honorable treatment." Norwich Citizen, Daily Advertiser, May 29.

"His long experience in this field of investigation has made him familiar with the business in all its branches, and we can confidently recommend him to those needing his services." Patriotic Farmer, Chicago, June 1.

"Few persons have had more opportunities for learning the necessities of such a business." The World (weekly), New York City, June 19.

"A thorough mechanical engineer with a valuable practical experience in the machine shop." Am. Railway Times, Boston, June 4.

"Mr. Whitney is qualified by experience and practical knowledge. His life and experience have been such as to develop the fullest sympathy with men engaged in industrial pursuits, especially inventors." Moore's Rural New Yorker, June 8.

Address, for full information, free of charge,

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Over 50,000 Sold.

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Adjustable Planes.

Manufactured by the

Stanley Rule & Level Co.,

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Sold by all Hardware Dealers.

Warehouse, 55 Chambers St., New York.

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MANUFACTURED BY

E. & T. FAIRBANKS & CO.

Factory Established 1830,

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R. R. TRACK, HAY, COAL SCALES.

COAL DEALER

For Rolling Mills, Furnaces, Foundries,

Miners' Use.

SCALES

For Stores, Mills and Wharves.

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FOR ELEVATORS & GRAIN WAREHOUSES

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For Farmers, Butchers, Druggists, &c.

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CAUTION.

The well earned reputation of our scales has induced

the makers of imperfect and worthless balances to offer

them as "Fairbanks' Scales," and purchasers have there-

by, in many instances, been subjected to fraud and im-

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If such makers were capable of constructing good

Scales they would have no occasion to borrow our name.

BUY ONLY THE GENUINE

Fairbanks' Standard Scales.

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Principal Scale Warehouses,

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FAIRBANKS & HUTCHINSON, San Francisco, Cal.

BUSINESS ITEMS.

PENNSYLVANIA.

The Thomas Iron Company, at Hokendauqua, has added to their machine shop three lately improved machines, consisting of a slide screw cutter lathe, slotter, and drilling machines. They were manufactured by the New York Steam Engine Co., and are of the finest pattern and finish, and will greatly facilitate work in their shops.

The Glen Iron Company received an order a few days ago for 55 tons (six car loads) of T rails, for a street railroad to be laid in Salt Lake City, Utah Territory.

The Vallentine Iron Company, of Williamsport (late of Bellefonte), have broken ground and expect to be in operation in three months. The mill will be modern in all its parts. Those having it in charge are practical, and men of large means. The location was selected because of the large amount of refuse lumber coming from the saw mills at that point, which they expect to be able to utilize in making their charcoal. In the manufacture of a superior quality of boiler plate this is an important item, and if they succeed in cheapening the cost of charcoal it will give them advantages that can hardly be overestimated. They are putting in one of the largest steam hammers in that part of the State. Marchand & Morgan, of Alliance, O., have the order.

Freeman & Burgher's Tube Works, at Pittsburgh, were burned June 13. Loss, \$25,000; insurance, \$12,000. The Keystone Bridge Company's fitting shed was also destroyed. Loss, \$3000; fully insured.

DELAWARE.

Mr. Schoen, of the Delaware Spring Works, Wilmington, is turning out a large number of both elliptic and coil springs, which are being used under Pullman's palace cars built there, beside being shipped to all parts of the country. Mr. Schoen is also the sole manufacturer of Smythe's self-adjusting sleeping car spring, and manufactures spiral and volute buffers.

The Wilmington Gazette says: Messrs. Brand & Hooper, of Baltimore, are erecting a building in which to manufacture carriage axles, on East Front street, near the railroad, in the rear of Pennington, Bayley & Co.'s machine shop. They have the machinery ready to put up, which cuts the axles from the iron, instead of working them out by lathes and planers, as is done by the present method. They will soon begin operations.

The Messrs. Townsend have commenced the erection of a new rolling mill in Wilmington. It will be somewhat larger than the one they at present carry on, and will give employment to 100 hands.

CONNECTICUT.

The H. B. Bigelow Iron Works, in New Haven, were totally destroyed by fire, June 15, the loss being \$100,000, and the insurance \$63,000. About 50 men were thrown out of employment.

MASSACHUSETTS.

Among the many enterprises which have been developed in Springfield within the past two years, are the works of the Gilbert & Barker Manufacturing Co., who manufacture the well-known Springfield gas machine. They commenced business in 1867 in a single room, 20x40, and its growth has been so rapid that they now occupy the whole of the three story brick factory at the head of Lyman street, corner of Spring, employing about 35 hands, and producing annually about 300 machines of different sizes, ranging in value from \$300 to \$400 apiece. The consumption of sheet copper is about 30 tons, of solder 4 tons, iron 15 tons, and brass and composition castings 3 tons annually. They also manufacture about 50,000 of Barker's patent adjustable burners, the peculiarity of which is that a large or small light may be obtained without changing the form of the jet. They are specially adapted for burning air gas or carbureted air, and are said to be the only successful burner of the kind ever invented. They also make a specialty of the sale of gasoline of a very choice grade (the material from which gas is made in their machines), their sales reaching nearly 2000 bbls. per year. They have made and sent out, and have now in successful operation, some 600 machines, furnishing gas for tens of thousands of burners, lighting all classes of property, from the largest manufactory to the ordinary dwelling. They are in use in nearly every state in the Union, in Canada, South America, Germany and the West Indies. To such a stage of perfection has their process of lighting been brought that it is recognized as a necessity, and provision is made for its introduction in most of the better class of residences that are beyond the reach of city gas. The principle the company act upon is that the public will appreciate and purchase a first-class article, and therefore copper, the best and most durable of all the metals, is exclusively used in their machines, and the most skillful mechanics are employed, and no pains are spared to make it such. Their success is no doubt due very largely to the superior principles on which they are constructed, and to the simple and convenient manner in which they are erected. The machine itself is a model of simplicity, consisting of an air pump (which is the only part of the machine requiring care, and which, for convenience, is placed within the building, and containing nothing but air and water is perfectly safe) and the generator, which is always placed in a vault 50 feet away from the building beneath the surface of the ground, and once set up does not require over ten minutes time per week; no accident has ever occurred by their use. The demand for them is constantly increasing, and to be seen is to appreciate them. Their New York office is at 238 Canal street, where machine of all sizes can be seen at all times.

HENRY DISSTON & SONS'

SAW, TOOL, STEEL AND FILE WORKS,

Front and Laurel Streets,
PHILADELPHIA, PA.

Hankins' Elliptic Forked Saw Frame.

Patented June 28th, 1870.



The annexed engraving represents HANKINS' ELLIPTIC FORKED SAW FRAME, which commends itself to the trade for its simplicity of construction. The Forked Brace being all in one piece, without any centre bolt, secures for the Frame great strength and durability.

These Frames are put up with my best Webs, marked "No. 40, Harvey W. Peace."

HARVEY W. PEACE

VULCAN SAW WORKS,
WILLIAMSBURG, N. Y.

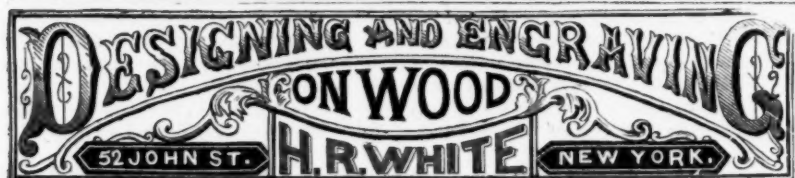
AMERICAN SAW CO.,

No. 1 FERRY STREET, NEW YORK.



Solid saws require frequent gumming, thereby subjecting them to risk of springing or breaking. This is especially the case with cross cuts having Patent Teeth. In the perforated saws all gumming is avoided, and the teeth are easily kept long and in proper shape, saving time, labor, expense and vexation. As is well known, our saws cut faster, smoother and easier than any other.

MOVABLE-TOOTHED CIRCULAR SAWS AND SOLID SAWS OF ALL KINDS.



W. ROSE & BROTHERS

WEST PHILADELPHIA,
Manufacturers of

**Plasterers' and Brick
Trowels,
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Also,
Saddlers' Round Knives, etc.,
N. E. cor. 36th & Filbert Sts.
Please send for Price List.

Cowdin Mfg. Co.,

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**DIAMOND
FLINT AND EMERY
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William N. Jennings,
FINE PRINTING & STATIONERY,
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H. W. PEACE,

MANUFACTURER OF

SAWS OF ALL KINDS.

FACTORY, WILLIAMSBURG, N. Y.

Excelsior Saw Works.

515 Cherry St., Philadelphia.

WM. McNIECE,

Manufacturer of

Superior Cast Steel Hand, Panel,
Ripping, Ice, Compass, Hack,
Butchers' Bow, Grafting, Pruning,
Keyhole and Web Saws,
Mowing Knives, Trunk Springs,
And all other kinds of Springs, made
from Sheet Cast Steel.

E. C. ATKINS & CO.,

Indianapolis, Indiana,

Saw Manufacturers.

Best Cast Steel Patent Ground Saws.

Also, sole Manufacturers of Atkins' Patent



CROSS-CUT SAW HANDLE.

Best Patent Handle in use.

Manufacture and Office—Nos. 210, 212, 214 and
216 South Illinois Street.



I make a specialty of the LARGEST SIZES of Circular Saws, and call particular attention of lumber manufacturers to the following points of excellence: Evenness of Temper.—The peculiar structure of my furnace subjects all parts of the saw to a DEAD heat, and when dipped in the oil bath, secures perfect uniformity.

Perfect Accuracy in Thickness.—My saws are ground on a patent machine, automatic in its operation, grinding off the thick places upon the plate before the thinner parts are reached, and when the saw is removed, it LAYS PERFECTLY, which is proof positive of the right accomplishment of the work.

Properly Hammered.—Great care is taken that no saw shall leave my works without due attention in this important particular. A saw too tightly strained upon the rim, or too loose in the center, cannot be successfully run—hence the importance of so hammering the saw as to effect equal strain in all its parts, and at the same time IT'S TRUE. This department is under the personal supervision of myself, who has devoted over twenty years to the art of saw making.

I am sole proprietor and manufacturer of the celebrated "Challenge" Cross-cut saw. Price Lists of all kinds of saws sent on application.

JAMES OHLEN.

WORRALL & CO.,

MANUFACTURERS OF

**EXTRA CAST STEEL SAWS,
Plastering Trowels, Tools, &c.**

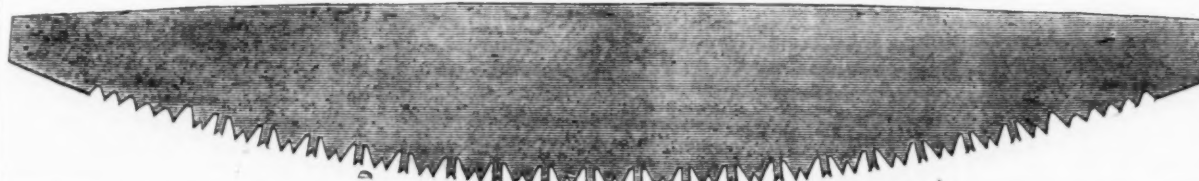
Saw Manufactory, Iron Foundry & Machine Shops, ELIZABETHPORT, N. J.

Office and Warerooms, 28 Elm Street, New York.

J. FLINT & CO.,

Manufacturers of all kinds of SAWS and PLASTERING TROWELS, Rochester, N. Y.

A large Stock of Cross Cut Saws constantly on hand. Orders filled promptly. Dietrich's Double Handle One Man Cross Cut Saw made with any kind of tooth desired. Our patent method of grinding Hand Saws makes them superior to any in the market. Send for illustrated Price List.



F. G. HOLTON & CO.,

Manufacturers' Agents,
and dealers in
HARDWARE SPECIALTIES.

Special attention given to the introduction of
NEW ARTICLES OF HARDWARE.
No. 124 Walnut St., Cincinnati, Ohio.

The Family Cherry Stoner.



The only really practical cherry stoner ever made. It does its work perfectly, without mashing the fruit.

D. H. GOODELL, Sole Manufacturer

Office & Salesroom, 55 Chambers St., N. Y.

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Also sole manufacturer of Turn Table and Lightning Apple Parers, Lightning Peach Parers and Uman Apple Corers.

COFFIN TRIMMINGS,

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NEW YORK SCREW BOLT WORKS.

(Estate of R. J. DEWHURST, deceased.)

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Bolts, Nuts, Turnbuckles, Washers, Forgings, &c

The attention of large consumers solicited.



BOYNTON'S LIGHTNING SAWS.

Awarded the Medal of the American Institute, 1872.



Two Direct Cutting Edges, instead of one Scraping Point. Note extra steel and durability over the old V, outlined on M tooth.

A Challenge of \$500, toward expense of a public test, to prove that the Lightning Saws excel all others in Speed, Ease, and Simplicity, has been offered since 1870, and has never been accepted. More than 100,000 Lightning Saws were sold during the year 1872, the purchasers of which testify to their superior merits.

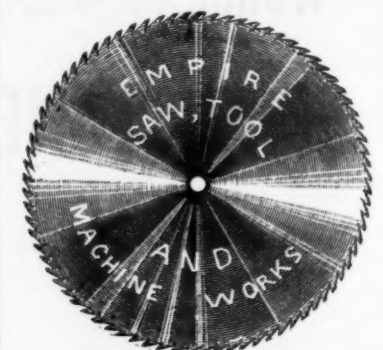
Our leading papers, such as the Tribune, American Agriculturist, Christian Union, etc., have published over sixty editorial notices recommending these Saws. Farmer's Clubs, Lumbermen, and Hardware Dealers unite in pronouncing the genuine Lightning Saw the greatest labor-saving implement of the age.

I have hundreds of letters from practical sawyers, voluntarily written, expressing their entire approval of these Saws. Where the Hardware Trade do not sell the Lightning Saw, I will send a 6-foot cross-cut and a buck saw-blade on receipt of \$3.

For Catalogue and additional information, address
E. M. BOYNTON, 80 Beekman St., New York,
Sole Proprietor and Manufacturer.

JAMES ECCLES, ENGINEER

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MANUFACTURER OF
SAWS OF ALL KINDS.

Saw Grinding Machinery

Of the most approved make, on hand and for sale; warranted to grind either straight or to any given taper or bevel. Sole maker of the

Quadruple Screw Power Press.

General Machine Work executed to order.

WHEELER, MADDEN & CLEMSON,

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SAWS

of every description,
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Circular, Shingle, Cross Cut,
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other Wood Saws,
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Cast Steel Files

of the well known brand of

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FACTORIES:

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BRUNDAGE FORGED HORSE NAILS,

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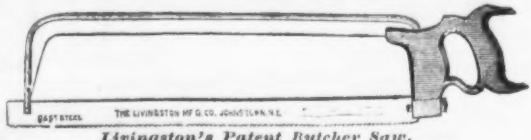
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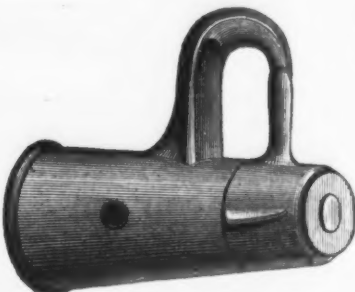
Livingston's Patent Butcher Saw.



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Whiffletree Hooks, Hay Fork Pulleys,
Grindstone Fixtures, Brackets, Axle Pulleys,
ACORN BUTTS, BARN DOOR HANGERS, &c.

LIVINGSTON'S PATENT SAWS.

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HENRY DICKINSON, Sheffield Cutlery, Files, &c.,

66 & 68 READE STREET (near Broadway), NEW YORK.

Manufacture, SHEFFIELD, ENGLAND.

Isaac Milner's Fine Pocket and Table Cutlery.
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J. B. Osberton & Co.'s Medium Table Cutlery.
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Hargreaves, Smith & Co.'s "Imperial" Files.
Milner's "X" and Collins' "IXL" Hand Saws.

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Shears, Trimmers, Scissors, &c.

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TRADE MARK.
J. Rowe's XL.TRADE MARK.
Etna Shear Co.

Send for Catalogue.

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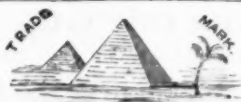
George Wostenholm & Son,
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Manufacturers of Table Cutlery, Butcher Knives,
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JOSEPH ELLIOT & SONS,
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Joseph Rodgers & Sons'

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CELEBRATED CUTLERY,

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The demand for Joseph Rodgers & Sons'
productions having considerably increased, they
have, in order to meet it, greatly extended their
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To distinguish Articles of Joseph Rodgers
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ESTABLISHED 1852.

NEW YORK KNIFE CO.

MANUFACTURERS OF SUPERIOR

Table & Pocket Cutlery,

WARRANTED TO BE MADE OF THE BEST
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WALKILL RIVER WORKS,

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Manufacturers of Patent

FINE PEN AND POCKET CUTLERY,

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We warrant our Knives equal in cutting qualities
and workmanship to any made. We also make
SILVER PLATED POCKET KNIVES,
which will not rust or become discolored when used as
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Sporting Knives. Corporate Mark.

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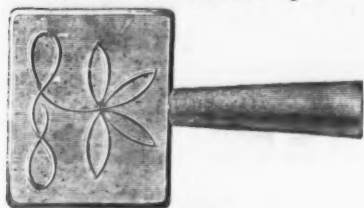
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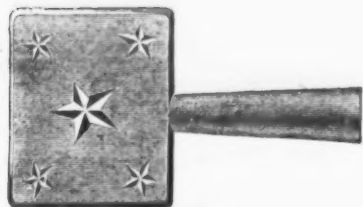
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Patent Embossed Steps.



Leaf Pattern.



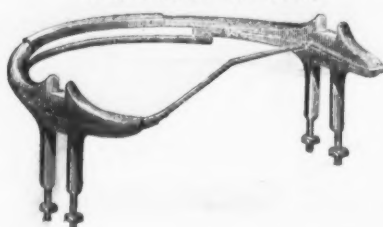
Star Pattern.

King Bolt Yokes.



Established 1850.

No. 6 Fifth Wheels.



1871 Pattern Shaft Couplings.



Patent Cross Bar Steps.

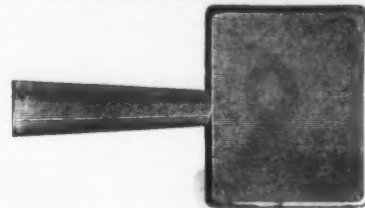


Upper View.



Lower View.

Solid Plain Pattern Steps.



Smith's Improved Philadelphia Pattern Slat Irons.



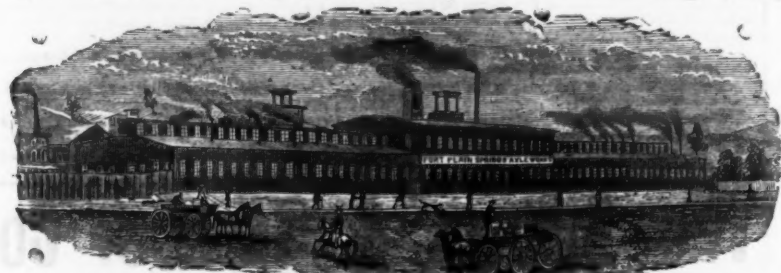
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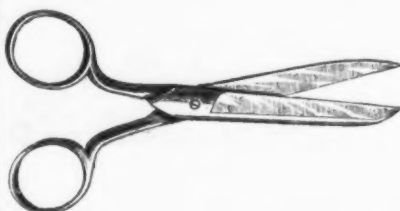
David, Wentworth.



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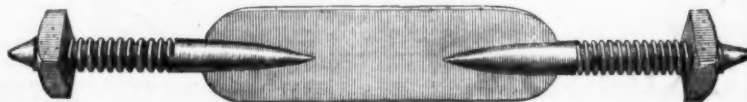


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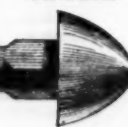


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Niles Iron Co., Niles, O.	4
Old Dominion Iron & Nail Works Co., Richmond, Va.	4
Oxford Iron Co., 81 Washington, N. Y.	4
Phenix Iron Works, Philadelphia, Phila.	4
Rowland Wm. & Harvey, Phila.	4
Iron, Hoop, Manufacturers of.	
Iron, Clark & Co., Pittsburgh, Pa.	4
Iron, Swedish, Manufacturers of.	
Jessup Wm. & Sons, 91 and 93 John, N. Y.	2
Mittander Nils, 49 William, N. Y.	2
Ward E. & Co., 100 John, N. Y.	2
Lace Leather, Manufacturers of.	
Stovic Wm. H., 403 Liberty, Phila.	15
Lawn Mowers, Manufacturers of.	
Chadler & Co., 100 Madison, Newburgh, N. Y.	1
Lead and Tin Lined Lead Pipe, etc., Mfrs.	
Colwell, Shaw & W. Co., 213 Centre, N. Y.	1
Leather, Manufacturers of.	
Norwich Lock Co., Norwich, Conn.	30
Romer & Co., Newark, N. J.	30
Leeger & Gifford, 100 Broadway, N. Y.	1
Trenton Lock Co., 48 Warren, N. Y.	2
Leather, Manufacturers of.	
Yale Lock Mfg. Co., 226 Broadway, N. Y.	2
Leather, Manufacturers of.	
Billings & Spencer Co., Hartford, Conn.	1
Flahkall Lathing Mch. Co., 65 Bleecker, N. Y.	1
Leather, Manufacturers of, 100 Broadway, N. Y.	1
Chasb Machine Co., New Hartford, Conn.	1
Paulding, Kemble & Co., 30 Broadway, N. Y.	1
Robt E. & Co., 100 Broadway, N. Y.	1
Rollstone Machine Works, Fitchburg, Mass.	1
Sellers Wm. & Co., 100 Hamilton, Phila.	1
Leather, Manufacturers of.	
Whitell, Smith & Co., Newburgh, N. Y.	1
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Blaisdell F. & Co., Worcester, Mass.	1
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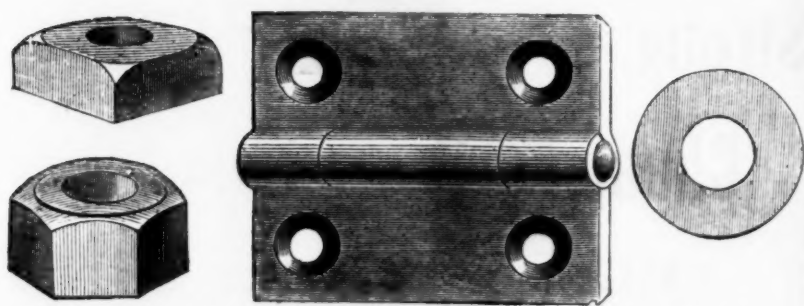
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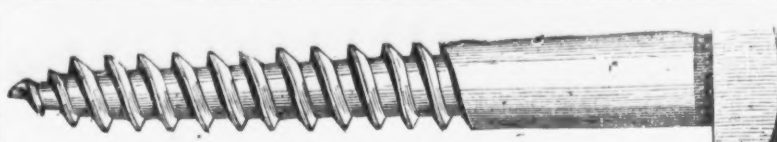
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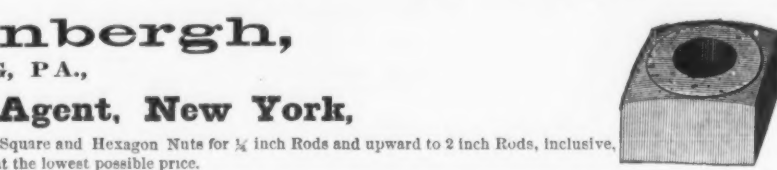
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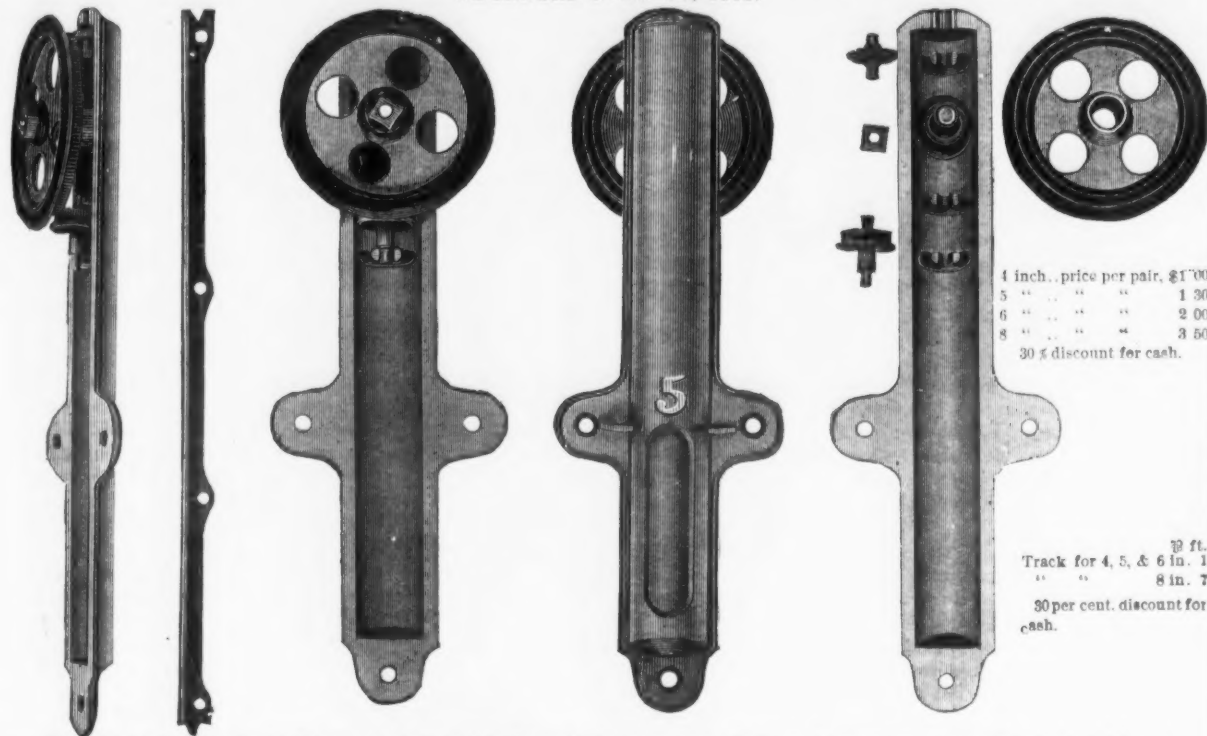
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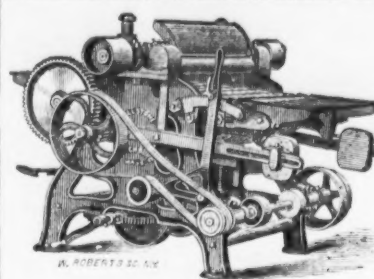
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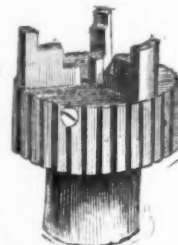
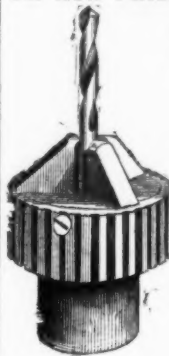
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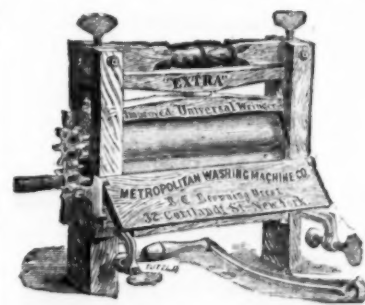
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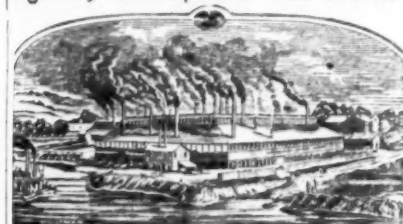


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JAMES C. BAYLES, . . . Editor.
JOHN S. KING, . . . Business Manager.

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REMOVAL.

THE OFFICE OF

THE IRON AGE

Has been removed to

10 Warren St.,
NEW YORK.

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Sixteenth Page.—Volume XII. Steel and Iron: What are they? The Possible Future of American Iron. Skilled Engineers. Scientific and Technical Notes.
Eighteenth Page.—Trade Report.
Nineteenth Page.—Trade Report (concluded). Our English Letter.
Twenty-third Page.—New York Wholesale Prices of Hardware and Metals.
Twenty-fourth Page.—New York Wholesale Prices (concluded).
Twenty-seventh Page.—Philadelphia, Buffalo, Boston and Pittsburgh Hardware and Metal Prices.
Twenty-ninth Page.—Chicago, Cincinnati, St. Louis, and Detroit Hardware and Metal Prices.

Volume XII.

With this issue we begin Volume XII of *The Iron Age*. In announcing this fact we feel that we have nothing to apologize for in the past, and but little to promise for the future. The index to Volume XI, which accompanies this number, shows something of the results of our labors, during the past half year, to make *The Iron Age* valuable to our readers; while our steadily growing circulation and increasing advertising patronage attest the favor with which our journal is regarded in the trades and industries which it aims to represent with honesty and intelligence. We find increasing cause for satisfaction with the change made at the beginning of the year in the shape of our journal. It is now in a convenient form for filing in binders—an advantage which our readers fully appreciate—and we are able to increase the number of our pages from time to time, as the demands upon our space may require, without inconvenience to those who preserve our journal for binding. That the change is also warmly approved by our advertising patrons, is shown by the many letters of congratulation we are constantly receiving from friends throughout the country.

That we have few promises to make for the future, we have already stated. The aim of the conductors of this journal has ever been to make it as thorough and valuable as possible, and we have reason to think that the time when promises of improvement were necessary is past. It is our purpose to improve *The*

Iron Age wherever and whenever it is in our power to do so, and the progress made within a year in increasing our facilities for the acquisition of the latest and most interesting commercial, metallurgical and scientific intelligence, has by no means satisfied our ambition in this direction. What we can do to make our journal still more valuable we shall do, believing that a liberal and enterprising policy in the conduct of a trade newspaper is the first condition of a worthy and permanently satisfactory success.

Steel and Iron: What are They.

It is a curious fact that, with the progress of scientific inquiry and investigation in the various departments of metallurgy, the question, What is Steel? has not yet been so definitely answered as to set at rest all further dispute. As most of our readers are aware, there has been a wide diversity of opinion among metallurgical authorities as to what constitutes the difference between steel and iron. The usually accepted definition of steel is that it is iron chemically combined with sufficient carbon to give it toughness and strength without brittleness. This, however, is not universally accepted as a correct definition of steel, nor does it agree with the results of chemical analysis, which show that the percentage of chemically combined carbon varies as much in steel as in iron. It is of great importance, however, that the difference between them should be clearly defined and generally understood. With a view to establishing, for commercial purposes, the exact difference between steel, cast iron and wrought iron, the Albion Steel and Wire Company, of Sheffield, have issued a circular inviting discussion, from which we take the following:

"What is steel? The question is frequently asked; and as we fail to find a clear, full, and correct definition in any book, we will give one—hoping that any one who thinks it erroneous will make public the reason therefor. Steel: A combination or alloy of iron, that will forge, harden, and temper. There are various kinds of steel, such as carbon cast steel, tungsten cast steel, chrome cast steel, cyanogen cast steel, and titanium cast steel, and several other metals have been alloyed with iron to make steel. There is also blistered steel, which is made from malleable bar iron, by a process called cementation; German steel, which is made directly from the ore, and sometimes from pig iron, in the Catalan forge; and steel which is made by other processes. The line between cast iron and steel is: when it is capable of being forged it is steel, and when it will not forge it is cast iron. And the line between malleable iron and steel is: when it will harden and temper it is steel, and when it will not harden and temper it is malleable iron. Cast steel will harden slightly when it contains from 0.25 per cent. to 0.30 per cent. of carbon, and ceases to be capable of forging if it contains much more than 1.75 per cent. of carbon. This seems like a very comprehensive definition, but it is not one which precisely meets the wants of metallurgical writers, as it is too involved, and would lead to a confusion of ideas on the subject which it attempts to make clear. All things considered, we prefer the definition of Mr. A. L. Holley, the distinguished engineer of the Bessemer process in this country, published in a recent issue of this journal. Mr. Holley defines steel as an alloy of iron cast while in a molten state into a malleable ingot, and expresses the opinion that any radical nomenclature founded on chemical differences can only lead to mistakes and confusion. "It," he says, "steel is defined as an alloy of iron containing carbon enough to harden it when it is heated and plunged into water, then puddled iron, although laminated and heterogeneous in structure, may be steel, and the finest product of the crucible, although crystalline and homogeneous in structure, may not be steel. The fundamental and essential difference between steel and all other compounds of iron is a structural difference, and it is always easily determined, while steel and wrought iron cannot always be distinguished by chemical analysis. The same proportions of carbon, manganese, silicon and other elements may exist in and similarly affect any malleable alloy of iron." Even this definition, which commends itself at once to the practical mind as according with, and harmonizing, the various differences of opinion found in books of reference, is not completely satisfactory, as it does not provide a correct definition of the blister steel made from wrought iron by the process of cementation. By this process iron becomes steel through chemical change. Its carburization is effected by bringing it in contact, at a proper heat, with carbon, oxide of carbon and slightly carburized hydrogen, each of which contributes something toward the carburization of the iron and toward the expulsion of its impurities. According to Frey, the carbon penetrates the iron, re-

ducing the silicates and setting free the carbonic oxide. Obviously, the difference between blister steel and the iron of which it is made is chemical, as well as structural, although Mr. Holley's definition holds good when the bars from the cementation chests are cast into malleable ingots after being cut up and melted in crucibles. In conclusion, we would say that the question, What is Steel? is one of much interest, and we shall be happy to devote a portion of our space to the letters of such of our correspondents as may care to discuss it.

And now arises the question—What is iron? We have been taught to believe that it is an element, and that it may be obtained chemically pure by a very simple process, which need not here be described. It now appears, however, that what has hitherto been regarded as pure iron consists largely of the element hydrogen, and, if this be true, the question arises whether a chemical element may not be discovered which will prove to be common to all metals and the base of all metallic salts, including iron. Professor Jacobi, a Russian savant, raises this question by announcing that he has, for the first time, subdivided what has hitherto been regarded as pure iron. He placed iron deposited by the action of the galvanic battery under the receiver of an air pump and, heating it to redness, disengaged hydrogen in torrents, leaving in place of the iron experimented upon an increased volume of a silver-white metal, very ductile and so soft as to be readily cut with a scissor. The metal, whatever it may be called, oxidizes rapidly in the air and decomposes water below the boiling point. How much of truth there may be in this story we do not know, and have no present means of ascertaining. We merely present it for what it is worth, because, if true, it contains a very interesting metallurgical nut which will be found worth the cracking.

The Possible Future of American Iron.

While we have no desire to attach more importance to the growing success of American efforts to compete with British enterprise in iron manufacture than properly belongs to it, we cannot forbear to note, editorially, the significant facts which come to our notice from time to time, showing the changes which are taking place in the course of the world's iron trade, believing that they will be found of interest to all classes of our readers. One of the latest of these facts comes to us in the shape of intelligence from Sheffield, England, to the effect that American orders for steel and its manufactures are being generally countermanded, because the goods hitherto made in Sheffield for this market can now be made cheaper and equally well at home. A Sheffield correspondent of *Engineering*, evidently wishing to put matters in the best light, says of American orders: "A little uneasiness is beginning to be felt at the great strides that American manufacturers are making in the production of steel and finished iron, and it is felt that if our makers are really determined to hold their American connection together, they must do so by reducing prices. This, in some cases, they can very well afford to do, as profits in one or two departments of the steel trade are 'by no means small.' In his remarks on the trade in Staffordshire chains, the correspondent of the *Ironmonger* in that district says: 'At this period of the year we have usually been doing a great business in the lighter goods with the United States. The quotations have, however, lately so greatly advanced that nothing is now being done. It has not been an unusual circumstance for an order to the extent of 5000 dozen to reach one of the merchant firms of Wolverhampton, but that firm is now getting scarcely an order, customers' communications intimating that the chains can be got in America at prices under the quotations of English makers. The high prices which have been necessitated in the past two years by the advances in iron have greatly stimulated the industry in the United States, and team and draw chains and hames are now being produced in immense quantities in St. Louis. The rise in these goods in this country, as compared with the quotations a little over two years ago, is from 100 to 130 per cent. No wonder, therefore, that American makers should be stimulated to supply the wants of their own countrymen.' Commenting on these facts somewhat sadly, the *Ironmonger* sagely concludes that, so far, at least, as England's supremacy in the iron trade is concerned, the fulfillment of Macaulay's prophecy of the New Zealander on the London bridge is nearer at hand than most people imagine.

Now, what do these facts, and those of a similar nature noted from time to time in previous issues of this journal, indicate? That we are about to cease importing iron altogether, and begin exporting it largely, in various crude and manufactured forms, to England? By no means. It needs but a hasty glance at the statistics of production and consumption of iron in the United States to show that we are, as yet, in no po-

sition to talk about either depending upon our own production exclusively, or supplying, to any considerable extent, the wants of other nations relying upon foreign sources for their iron. Should our production of pig in 1873 be half a million tons greater than in 1872, we should still find our native product more than a million tons less than the annual consumptive requirements of the country, whereas it is doubtful if our increase in production this year, as compared with last year, will exceed 450,000 tons, while the consumptive requirements of the country would, if met, have increased in a much larger percentage. We cannot, therefore, declare ourselves independent of foreign sources of supply, much less supply foreign markets, until our annual production of pig iron shall have nearly, if not quite, doubled. What, then, is the true significance of the facts above and previously presented, as showing the growing advantage of the United States and Great Britain in the production and manufacture of iron? Either they have no significance at all, or they are of the utmost importance as indicating the extent of the opportunities which are now opening to us of seizing and retaining control of the world's export trade in iron and its manufactures. It is difficult, perhaps, for those who have not carefully examined the condition of the iron trade at home and abroad to realize that the time for the fulfillment of those vague and indefinite prophecies of England's decline and America's supremacy, has come already, though so suddenly as to find us unprepared; but such is the fact, nevertheless, and it is one well calculated to establish confidence in the present and permanent advantage of liberal investments in furnaces and rolling mills. Rapid as is our annual progress in this direction, it is far less rapid than the condition of the iron trade of the world would warrant, and we find occasion for surprise in the fact that ten furnaces and mills are not building for every one we now hear of as in course of construction. With our inestimable wealth of coal and ores, and a home and foreign demand only limited by our ability to supply it, the increase in our production of pig iron should average at least a million tons per annum during the next five years. This would give us no more iron than we could use and sell, and on no less product can we fully realize what may now be regarded with confidence as the possible future of American iron.

Skilled Engineers.

Few persons who have not made the subject a study, realize how much a competent and faithful engineer can contribute to the success of a manufacturing enterprise requiring steam power, or how heavy a burden the blundering or carelessness of an incompetent or unfaithful engineer imposes upon those who embark in such an undertaking without a comfortable reserve capital. When close economy is necessary—and it never ceases to be necessary, however large may be the profits realized—it can nowhere begin to better advantage than in the engine room. Many a promising manufacturing enterprise has failed because its power cost more than it ought to have cost, and because its profits were eaten up in repairs to boiler and engine, which, under better and more intelligent management, would never have been necessary; and yet the persons most directly interested in the success of such enterprises have imagined they were economizing in employing engineers whose services could be had for small wages. An employer without practical experience in the management of boilers and engines is, perhaps, easily deceived by the confident professions and fair promises of an incompetent engineer whom he may take into his employ; but he does not need much experience to teach him, if he looks carefully after his engineer, whether he does his work properly and carefully, and from inquiry he may learn whether the wages he demands are those which will command first-class men. If not, the employer may be pretty sure that his man will bear watching, for skilled labor is something which always commands its market value.

A few years ago it was thought that ability to stop and start an engine, to properly oil and clean it, and to make trifling repairs where necessary, were the only qualifications necessary for an engineer, and the cheapest man who could perform these simple functions was the most desirable to employ. The care of the boiler—if it received any care—was delegated to the fireman, whose chief qualification was ability to shovel coal. But we have learned from experience that the economy which employs ignorant or unfaithful men in these positions is of the kind that saves at the spigot to waste at the bung. The competent engineer must be a man of intelligence, who knows the theory of steam as well as its uses, and who could, if necessary, build a boiler and an engine. He should also have served as fireman long enough to have gained experience in the management of fires, and be able to superintend the labors of those

under him. Exceptional talent and careful study may enable him to dispense with some part of this preparation, but he is the better in every instance for having learned his duties practically, as well as theoretically. His first duty, when entrusted with the management of an engine, is to familiarize himself with every part of it, ascertain its condition, as well as the condition of the boilers; his next duty is to experiment with his power in order that he may know how much steam is needed to enable his engine to do the duty expected of it, so that he may intelligently superintend the labors of the fireman. He should also estimate, as accurately as may be, the calorific power of his fuel, and see that it is properly prepared for the furnace, if preparation is necessary, before it is thrown in. He is then in a condition to discharge his delicate and responsible duties with intelligence and fidelity. The engineer who leaves to the unskilled fireman the care of the fires, knowing nothing of the results of his labors except such knowledge as may be gained from an occasional glance at the steam gauge, would be an expensive man to employ if he worked for nothing. As we have before shown in these columns, bad management of fires is invariably attended with a waste of fuel, and we know of instances in which this waste has been great enough to cause the failure of enterprises that, with more intelligent supervision of the fires, might have lived over the difficulties which, as it was, forced their suspension. We have not space, at this time, to discuss the proper management of fires, especially as we have before treated the subject in the fullest detail: suffice it to say, therefore, that upon the engineer of a manufacturing establishment devolves duties which ignorant and inexperienced men cannot properly perform, and which, if neglected, will often turn the scale of profit and loss in favor of the latter.

It need not be inferred from the foregoing that we would set up for the engineer a standard of efficiency to which no man of ordinary intelligence and capacity could conform. There are plenty of men thoroughly fitted for the position, whose services may be had for the asking, but employers must not suppose that they will work for less wages as engineers than they can earn as machinists. A skilled engineer need never seek employment nor work for low wages, and those who will work for little generally receive all they are worth, and often a great deal more. A manufacturer using steam power can always well afford to pay the right kind of an engineer a liberal salary, and if he is badly and wastefully served by the man whom he employs in this capacity, he has, as the rule, only himself to blame for it.

Scientific and Technical Notes.

The North British Railway Co. have lately undertaken a system of experiments with Mr. E. Gilbert's new system of ELECTRIC COMMUNICATION FOR RAILWAY TRAINS, which is well spoken of. The plan proposed by Mr. Gilbert offers the following advantages: (1.) Audible and visible signals between guard and driver, and guard and guard. (2.) Audible and visible signals from passengers to guards and drivers. (3.) Audible and visible signals to guard and driver on the accidental separation, whilst in motion, of any portion of a train. (4.) That sections of a train may be detached whilst in motion without disturbing the communication on the preceding portion of the train. A telegraph wire is fitted up with each train, running between the guard's van under the floors of the carriages to the guard's van in front, and also to the engine. The wire, which is in a small cable, runs along under the flooring of the carriages, and forms a communication between the guard in the rear van and the driver of the train. Within each compartment of the train is fitted up a circular plate, inscribed with the words "push," and "to warn the guard." So long as the disc remains in its normal condition the electric apparatus is not in action, but on the center portion of the disc being pushed in a simple internal arrangement provides that the electric circuit is thereby completed, and the bells in both vans and on the engine are set in motion. To prevent the improper use of this precautionary safe-guard, the disc is so arranged that on the center being pushed in the remainder changes color from white to scarlet, and cannot be restored to its original condition until an internal spring releases the mechanism, the key to effect this being in the hands of the guard. The coupling from carriage to carriage is effected by short cables, the ends of which are inserted into sockets attached to each carriage. These sockets are so constructed that while in the event of a carriage being "slipped" while the train is in motion—a thing frequently done in the case of express trains—the removal of a small peg enables the wire to be thrown off without bringing the electric apparatus into operation; but should the train from any accidental cause be separated into two portions the jerk pulls the cable, peg and all, out of an inner socket, and when this is done the electric circuit is completed, and the bells at both ends of the train begin to ring. The train to which the apparatus is now attached has been for some days running between Edinburgh and Glasgow—twice each way; and in the instructions to the guards of that train, a code of signals has been provided. By one continuous ring of the electric bell the train is

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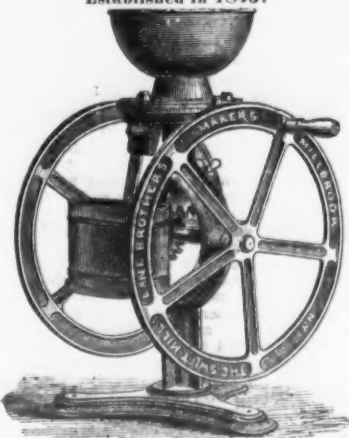
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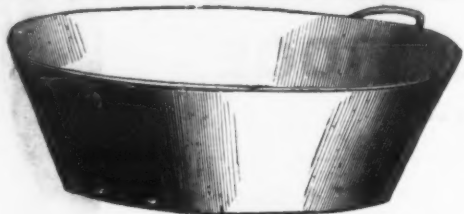
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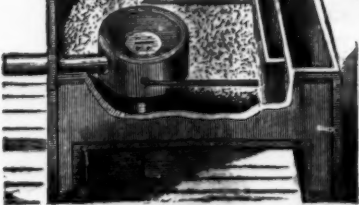
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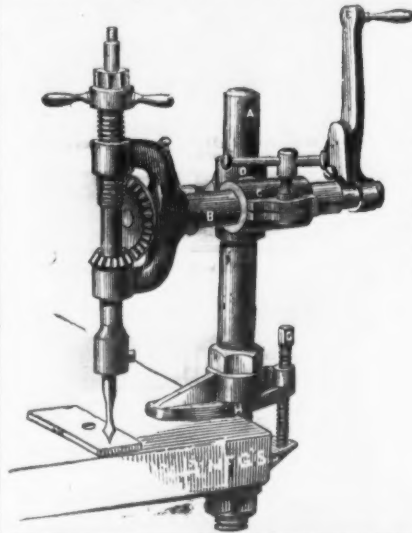
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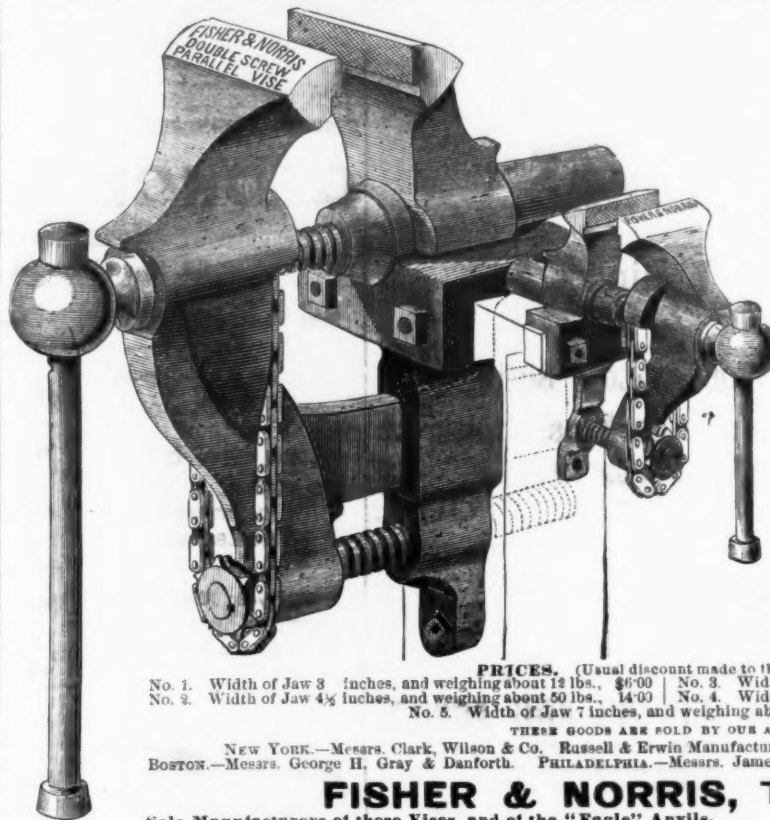
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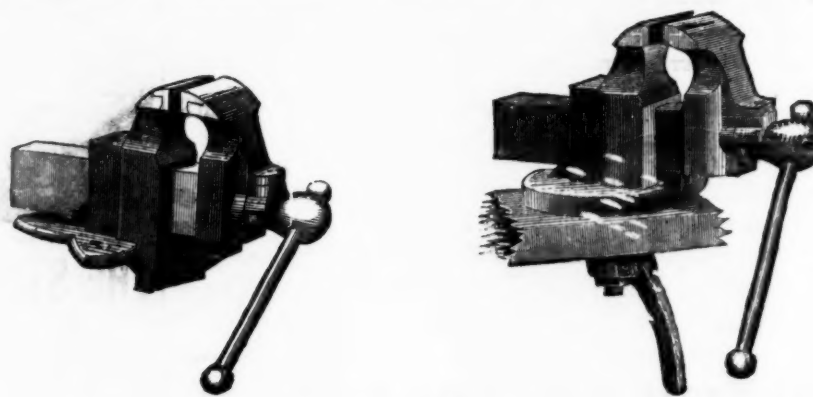
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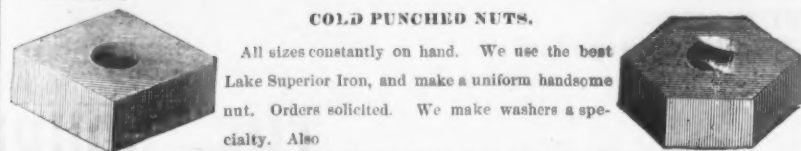
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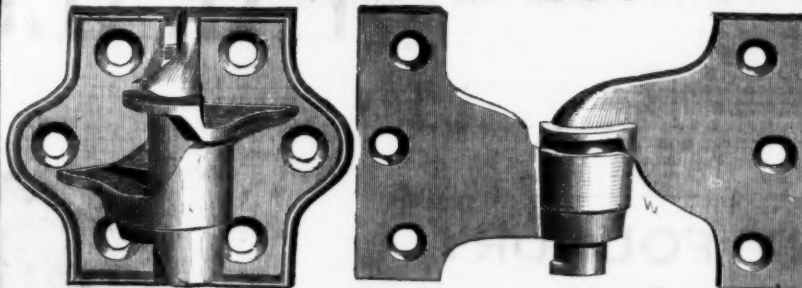
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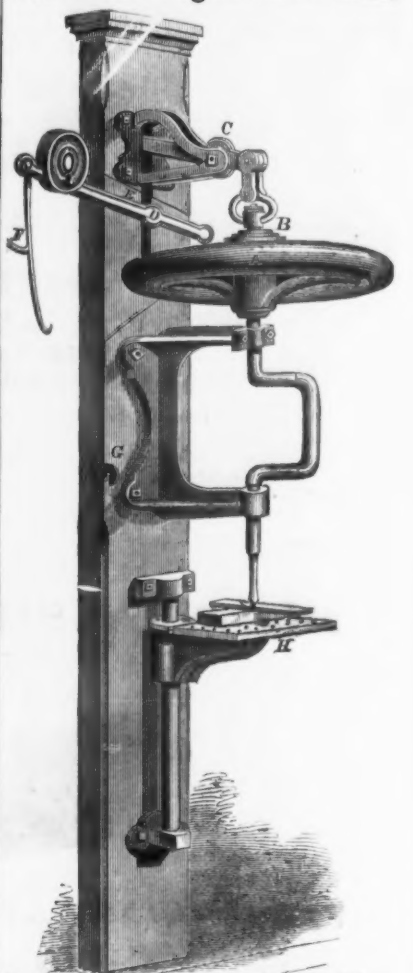
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Cotton, No. 1	1/2 @ 7 1/2
" No. 2	1/2 @ 8 1/2
White linen rags, No. 1	1/2 @ 1 1/2
" No. 2	1/2 @ 1 1/4
Colored	1/2 @ 1 1/2
Mixed woollens	1/2 @ 1 1/2
Soft woollens	1/2 @ 1 1/2
Gunny bagging	1/2 @ 1 1/2
Jute Butts	1/2 @ 1 1/2
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Book stock	1/2 @ 1 1/2
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Kentucky Bale rope	1/2 @ 1 1/2
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Grass rope	1/2 @ 1 1/2
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Copper	27 @ 28
Yellow metal	18 @ 22
Brass	18 @ 21
Old lead, solid	6 1/2 @ 6 1/4
Tea lead	5 1/2 @ 5 1/4
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Cast iron	1 1/2 @ 1 1/4
Machinery iron	1 1/2 @ 1 1/4
Zinc	26 @ 27
Pewter, No. 1	10 @ 12
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Spelter	7

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" Ultramarine	1/2 @ 15c
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" Paris	1/2 @ 15c
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Red Lead, American	1/2 @ 15c
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" Raw	1/2 @ 15c
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" English	1/2 @ 15c
" American, Common	1/2 @ 15c
White Lead, American, pure	1/2 @ 15c
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26 x 32 to 30 x 40	27.50	26.00	25.00	24.00
30 x 36 to 34 x 44	32.50	31.00	30.00	29.00
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FOR FORGING.

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2	100 lbs.	8 in.	34 in.	\$ 330 00
3	150 "	10 "	30 "	407 00
4	250 "	12 "	30 "	750 00
5	300 "	16 "	30 "	900 00
6	550 "	16 "	30 "	1300 00
7	1000 "	16 "	30 "	1800 00
8	1500 "	16 "	30 "	2500 00

FOR STAMPING SHEET METALS.

No.	Size of Die Bed.	Weight of Hammer.	Price of Drop without Lifter.	Price of Lifter.
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1	6 in.	50 lbs.	\$ 137 50	\$ 82 50
2	8 "	100 "	212 50	137 50
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4	12 "	250 "	470 00	340 00
5	16 "	400 "	550 00	430 00
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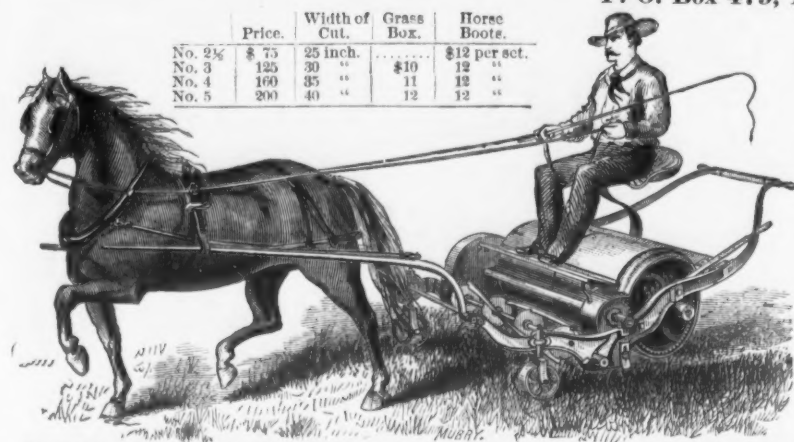
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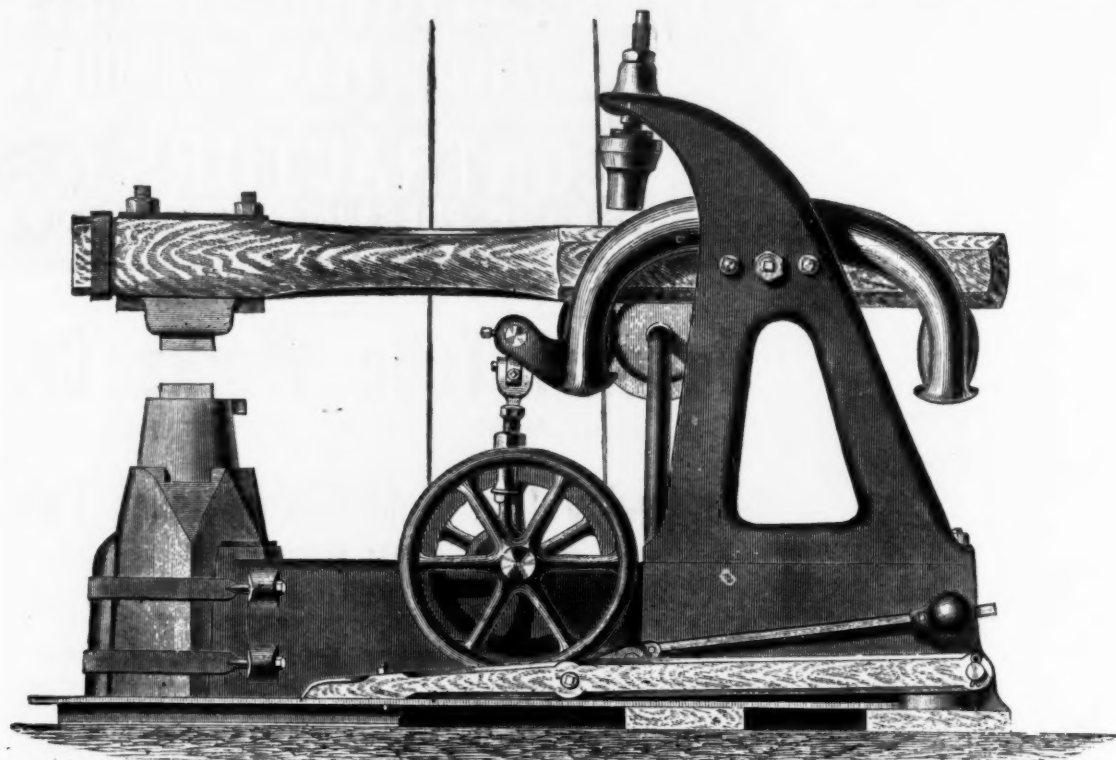
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This Hammer is a great improvement over the old style of helve hammers. It is all made of Iron and Steel except the helve and cushions. It is portable, takes up but little room, and makes no noise except the stroke of the hammer. It takes less power to drive it, and it turns out more and better work. The helve is nicely balanced upon two adjustable hardened steel centers, and there is no bind or friction connected with its action. It will endure more hardships at less expense for repairs, and, consequently, outlasts any other. Its capacity is greatly increased, but not at the expense of its size, convenience or durability. It strikes a more accurate, forcible and elastic blow than any other hammer. It is being used and is peculiarly adapted for the exceedingly difficult work of swedging cotton spindles; no other hammer has been able to do this work as perfectly and economically. It is the favorite of every hammerman; it promptly obeys his every touch, and he soon regards it as a thing of life. We warrant them as recommended, and refer you to the following parties now using them:

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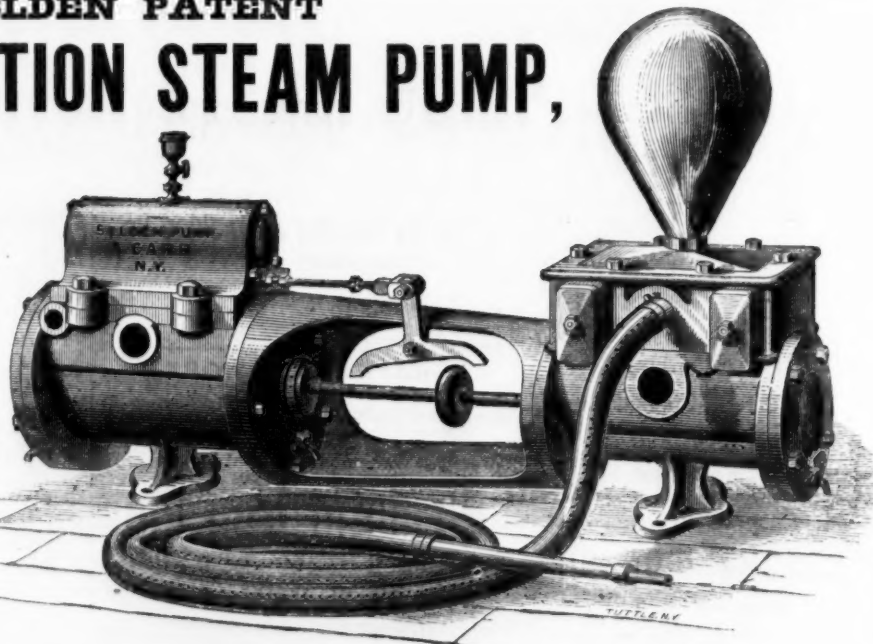
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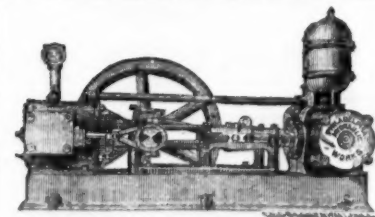
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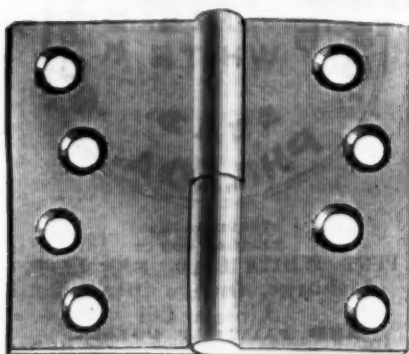
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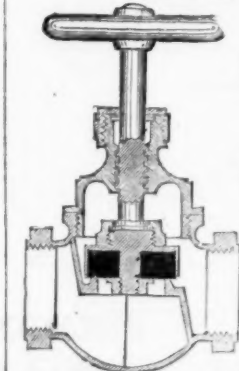
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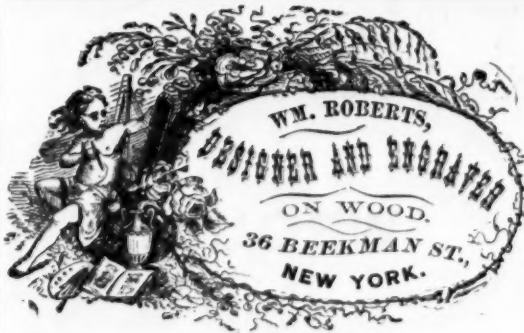
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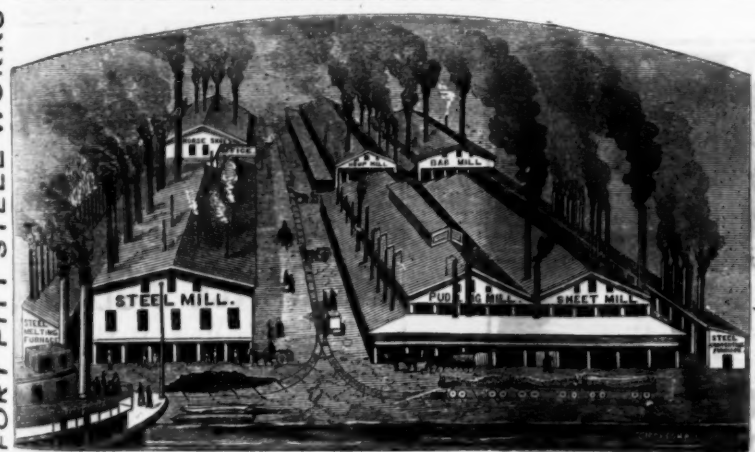
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Parker's.	dis 10 1/2
—Wood.	dis 10 1/2
—Brick.	dis 10 1/2

Casters.—Iron Plate.	dis 10 1/2
—Wheel Plate.	dis 10 1/2
—Porcelain Wheel Plate.	dis 10 1/2
—Red.	dis 10 1/2
Iron Wheel Bed.	dis 10 1/2

Chisels.—Butcher's Tanged Firmer.	dis 10 1/2
—Long Paring.	dis 10 1/2
Witherby Socket Framing.	dis 10 1/2
—Corner.	dis 10 1/2
—Slicks.	dis 10 1/2

Coffee Mills.	
Box 4 Iron.	dis 10 1/2
—Box 5 Cast Steel.	dis 10 1/2
—Box 6.	dis 10 1/2
—Box 7.	dis 10 1/2
—Box 8.	dis 10 1/2
—Box 9.	dis 10 1/2
—Box 10.	dis 10 1/2
—Box 11.	dis 10 1/2
—Box 12.	dis 10 1/2
—Box 13.	dis 10 1/2
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—Box 15.	dis 10 1/2
—Box 16.	dis 10 1/2
—Box 17.	dis 10 1/2
—Box 18.	dis 10 1/2
—Box 19.	dis 10 1/2
—Box 20.	dis 10 1/2

Cutlery.—American.	dis 10 1/2
—Pocket.	dis 10 1/2

Door Springs.—Terry.	dis 10 1/2
Hubber.	dis 10 1/2
Boon's.	dis 10 1/2

Drawing Knives.—Witherby Tool Co.	dis 10 1/2
Ohio Tool Co.	dis 10 1/2

Files.—Butcher's.	dis 10 1/2
—Nicholson's.	dis 10 1/2

Hammers.	
Maydole's.	dis 10 1/2
—net list.	dis 10 1/2
Cheney.	dis 10 1/2

Handles.	
Extra Axe.	dis 10 1/2
—No. 1.	dis 10 1/2
—No. 2.	dis 10 1/2
—No. 3.	dis 10 1/2
—No. 4.	dis 10 1/2
—No. 5.	dis 10 1/2
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—No. 19.	dis 10 1/2
—No. 20.	dis 10 1/2

Hatchets.	
Amoskeag Shingling.	dis 10 1/2
—Claw.	dis 10 1/2
—Lath.	dis 10 1/2
—Solid Steel.	dis 10 1/2

Hinges.—Strap and T.	dis 10 1/2
—Screw Hook and Strap.	dis 10 1/2
—No. 1.	dis 10 1/2
—No. 2.	dis 10 1/2
—No. 3.	dis 10 1/2
—No. 4.	dis 10 1/2
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—No. 18.	dis 10 1/2
—No. 19.	dis 10 1/2
—No. 20.	dis 10 1/2

Hook and Eye Hinges.	dis 10 1/2
—No. 1.	dis 10 1/2
—No. 2.	dis 10 1/2
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—No. 18.	dis 10 1/2
—No. 19.	dis 10 1/2
—No. 20.	dis 10 1/2

Horse Nails.—Northwestern, sd.	dis 10 1/2
—Globe, sd.	dis 10 1/2

Kettles.—Brass.	dis 10 1/2
—Enamelled.	dis 10 1/2
—No. 1.	dis 10 1/2
—No. 2.	dis 10 1/2
—No. 3.	dis 10 1/2
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—No. 18.	dis 10 1/2
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—No. 20.	dis 10 1/2

Locks and Keys.—	
—New Lock Co. sd.	dis 10 1/2
—No. 1.	dis 10 1/2
—No. 2.	dis 10 1/2
—No. 3.	dis 10 1/2
—No. 4.	dis 10 1/2
—No. 5.	dis 10 1/2
—No. 6.	dis 10 1/2
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North Lock Co. sd.	dis 10 1/2
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—No. 20.	dis 10 1/2

Patent Iron.	
—No. 1.	dis 10 1/2
—No. 2.	dis 10 1/2
—No. 3.	dis 10 1/2
—No. 4.	dis 10 1/2
—No. 5.	dis 10 1/2
—No. 6.	dis 10 1/2
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—No. 17.	dis 10 1/2
—No. 18.	dis 10 1/2
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—No. 20.	dis 10 1/2

Planers.—Ohio Tool Co. Bench.	dis 10 1/2
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—No. 2.	dis 10 1/2
—No. 3.	dis 10 1/2
—No. 4.	dis 10 1/2
—No. 5.	dis 10 1/2
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—No. 18.	dis 10 1/2
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—No. 20.	dis 10 1/2

Planers.—Ohio Tool Co. Bench.	dis 10 1/2
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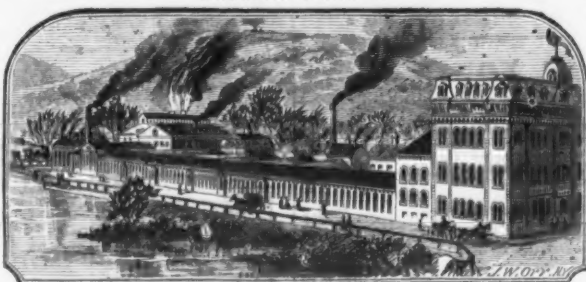
Planers.—Ohio Tool Co. Bench.	dis 10 1/2
—No. 1.	dis 10 1/2
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—No. 4.	dis 10 1/2
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—No. 8.	dis 10 1/2
—No. 9.	dis 10 1/2
—No. 10.	dis 10 1/2
—No. 11.	dis 10 1/2

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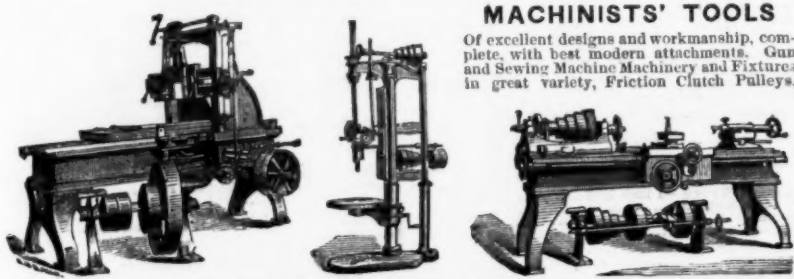
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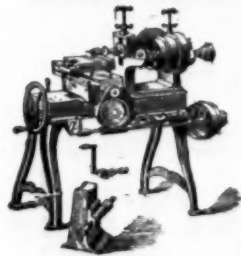
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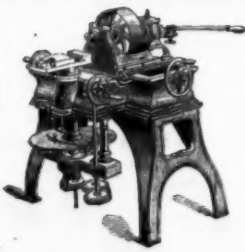
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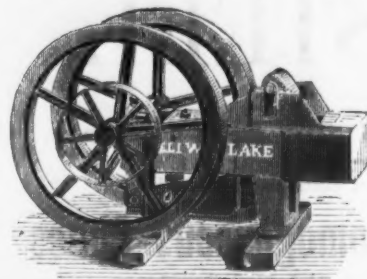
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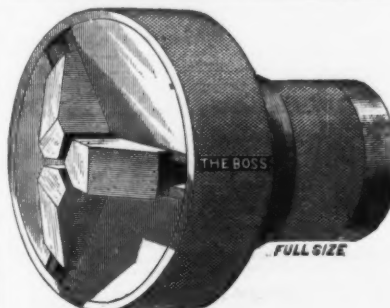
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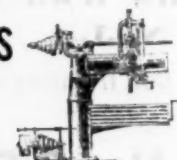
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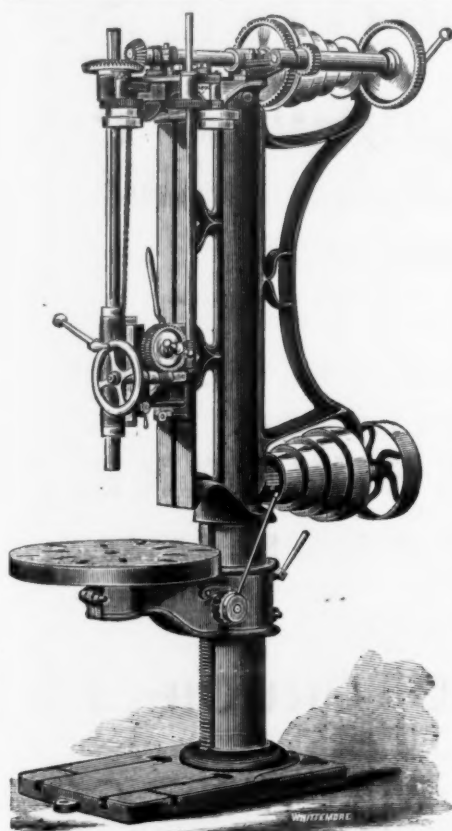
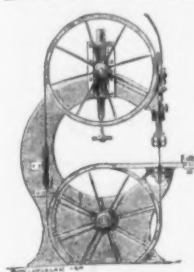
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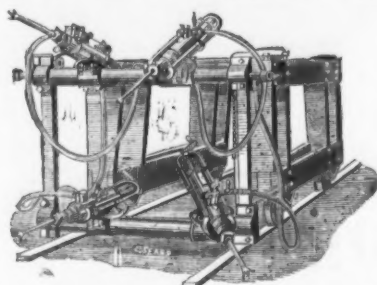
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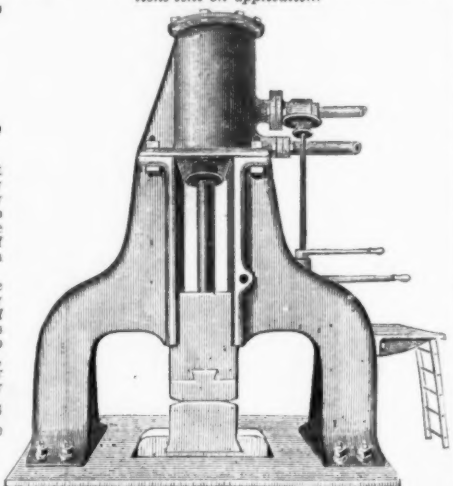
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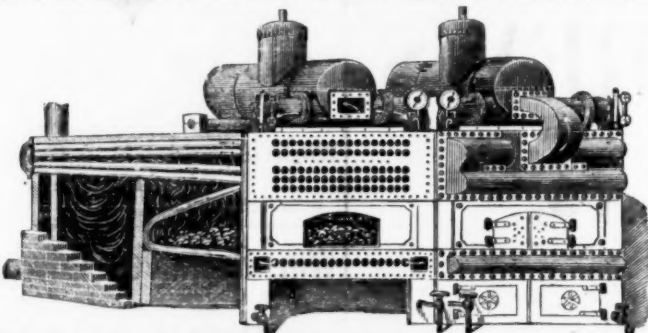
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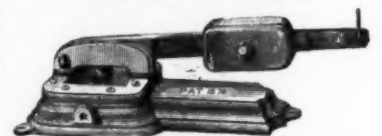
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